

**Minutes of the Board of Regents
of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences**

**Meeting No. 156
July 31, 2006**

The Board of Regents of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences met on July 31, 2006, at the Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine, 1401 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland. The meeting date and agenda were published in the Federal Register and each Regent was duly notified prior to the meeting. The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. The following members and advisors were in attendance:

Board Members

Everett Alvarez, Jr., J.D., Chair
Linda J. Stierle, M.S.N., R.N., CNAA, Vice Chair
L. D. Britt, M.D., M.P.H., Member
William C. De La Peña, M.D., Member
Sharon A. Falkenheimer, M.D., M.P.H., Member
Vinicio E. Madrigal, M.D., Member
Lawrence C. Mohr, M.D., Member
Charles L. Rice, M.D., President, USU
Stephen L. Jones, Ph.D., representing the Assistant Secretary of Defense, Health Affairs
RADM Kenneth P. Moritsugu, representing the Surgeon General of the United States
MG Joseph G. Webb, Jr., representing the Surgeon General, U.S. Army
RDML Carol I. Turner, representing the Surgeon General, U.S. Navy
COL Gary N. Matteson., representing the Assistant Secretary of Defense, Health Affairs
Col Vincent F. Carr, representing the Surgeon General, U.S. Air Force

Advisors to the Board

GEN Thomas R. Morgan, USMC (Ret), Military Advisor to the Board
Larry W. Laughlin, M.D., Ph.D., Dean, F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine, USU
COL Linda Wanzer, Acting Dean, Graduate School of Nursing, USU
COL Patricia K. Lillis-Hearne, Director, Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute
MG Kenneth L. Farmer, Jr., Commanding General, North Atlantic Regional Medical Command
Brig Gen Thomas W. Travis, Commander, Malcolm Grow Medical Center
COL Virgil T. Deal, Commander, Walter Reed Army Health Care System
CDR Mark A. Kobelja, representing the Commander, National Naval Medical Center
John E. Baker, J.D., General Counsel, USU

MATTERS OF GENERAL CONSENT

Mr. Alvarez welcomed everyone in attendance and introduced representatives present. Meeting dates for the coming year, the minutes from the Committee of the Whole meeting of

May 18, 2006, and the May 19, 2006, meeting of the Board of Regents were approved by voice vote in separate motions.

CAPT Mead reported for the record that the Board approved by electronic vote a University Medal and a Distinguished Service Medal. Both of these nominations were brought to the Board by Dr. Rice at the May 2006 meeting.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Rice introduced Mr. William Bester, recently appointed as Acting Dean, USU Graduate School of Nursing. Mr. Bester is a retired Brigadier General, U.S. Army. Dr. Rice also introduced COL Patricia Lillis-Hearne, the new director of the Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute, and Mr. Stephen Henske, USU Chief of Staff. The President's Report included the following items:

- USU's graduate programs in public health have been accredited for the maximum term by the Council on Education for Public Health
- Compliments to CAPT Mead for obtaining accreditation status as a continuing education provider by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education
- An update on the University's search for a Senior Vice President
- Dr. Elias Zerhouni, Director, National Institutes of Health (NIH), and RADM Richard Wyatt, Director of Intramural Research at NIH, visited USU's recent Bushmaster/Kerkesner exercises at Fort Indiantown Gap, PA, and both were enthusiastic about their experience
- An update on the review of the University's centers and institutes. Dr. Dale Smith is chairing a committee comparing USU's policies with those of other universities. An evaluation of University committees is also underway

At the request of the Chair, action on two award nominations was postponed.

DEANS' REPORTS

School of Medicine

Dr. Laughlin began his remarks describing the Class of 2010:

- Students sponsored by the Public Health Service increased from two to six; hopefully the beginning of an increased PHS involvement with the University
- The academic qualifications of USU's medical students have changed little over the years, e.g. an undergraduate grade point average of about 3.5 and an MCAT score of about 29
- Under-represented minorities comprise five percent of the class; increasing USU's minority percentages among both students and faculty remains a priority. Organizational changes in the dean's office reflect the importance of these issues.

Other issues addressed in the dean's report included:

- Preparation for the Liaison Committee for Medical Education site visit in October 2007 has begun. This preparation partly consists of a self-assessment process addressing each of the 127 standards for which the School of Medicine is accountable. Dr. Waechter, Associate Dean for Medical Education, manages USU's accreditation preparations.
- A request on behalf of the Committee for Names and Honors to reconsider the annual Board of Regents Award. As currently configured, the Board chooses the award's

recipient from a field of three nominations, one from the School of Medicine, one from the Graduate School of Nursing, and one from USU's Graduate Education Programs. This occurs the day before commencement. Dr. Laughlin pointed out that an unintended consequence of this selection process was that two of USU's outstanding students received no award at all. He also described the difficulty of comparing students with wide variety in experience and rank across schools. Following discussion, Mr. Alvarez requested that options deemed fair be presented to the Board in November.

- Department chair searches are ongoing in biochemistry and pathology
- A second participant in the University's Ph.D./M.D. Program has completed requirements for the Ph.D. and will enter medical school

Graduate School of Nursing

COL Wanzer added her welcome to BG (USA Retired) William Bester. Beginning today, Mr. Bester is Acting Dean of the Graduate School of Nursing. Other items in her report to the Board included:

- A description of the increased teamwork among faculty, students and staff evidenced in this year's Bushmaster/Kerkeshner exercises
- Admissions for 2006 stand at 53 for the school's three masters programs; the largest is the Nurse Anesthesia Program, with an enrollment of 29 students
- There are currently 143 students in the Graduate School of Nursing, including 24 in the Ph.D. program
- Highlighting the ability of the school to be immediately responsive to specific Service needs; i.e., FY 2007 will accommodate a large increase of Air Force nurses in the Nurse Anesthesia Program
- Three faculty searches are currently underway

BOARD ACTIONS

Degree Granting – Graduate Education

Dr. Laughlin presented for certification six candidates to receive graduate degrees in the biomedical sciences: one to receive a Doctor of Philosophy; one, a Master of Science in Emerging Infectious Diseases; and four a Master of Public Health.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board

Voted by voice vote: To confer the degrees as presented by Dr. Laughlin and recommend to the President and the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs that the President implement the action.

Faculty Appointments and Promotions

Dr. Laughlin presented the recommendations made by the School of Medicine Committee of Appointments, Promotion and Tenure at a meeting on June 12, 2006. Sixteen individuals were recommended for faculty appointments, promotions, or tenure.

Following discussion and upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board

Voted by voice vote: To concur with the recommendations of the Committee as presented by Dr. Laughlin and recommend to the President and the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs that the President implement the actions.

COL Wanzer presented a recommendation made by the Graduate School of Nursing Committee of Appointments, Promotion and Tenure at a meeting on June 15, 2006. It was recommended that Diane Seibert, Ph.D., CRNP, be promoted to the rank of associate professor.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board

Voted by voice vote: To concur with the recommendation of the Committee as presented by COL Wanzer and recommend to the President and the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs that the President implement the action.

REPORTS FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Finance and Administration

Mr. Rice described the current organization of his office, which now contains resource management, administration, and health and safety, each headed by an assistant vice president. His remarks included plans for improved administrative processes, which in turn will improve his area's customer support. Other points in his report included:

- An update on the administrative integration of the Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute into the University. Areas such as logistics, environmental health, and audio-visual currently remain separate. Completion is planned for the end of FY 2006.
- USU gained \$7.5 million as the result of the mid-year budget review with Tricare Management Activity. An additional \$2.5 million is under negotiation.
- FY 2006 faculty and staff pay increases and performance awards are completed
- Over \$300,000 has been saved through in-house renovations of several faculty offices and the Board of Regents Conference Room

Mr. Tinling's budget report reviewed a graph of the University's Obligation Plan as of June 30, 2006; a table comparing annual appropriations and quarterly obligations from FY 2001 through June 30, 2006, and a graph illustrating USU's total obligations from FY 1998 to FY 2005 using the following categories: research, instruction, operation/maintenance of plant; institutional support, academic support, student service and scholarship and fellowships.

Research

Dr. Kaminsky's report reviewed extramural research funding for both the second and third quarter of FY 2006. Although these are difficult funding times, 13 new grants were received in the second quarter; six have been received in the third quarter. Items of special note include:

- Five of the above awards were won by new faculty members who have quickly developed "active research laboratories" and successfully competed for funding
- Research activities at the Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute have been added to the research report

In response to questions from Dr. Jones, Dr. Kaminsky reviewed the University's relatively new recruiting packages for basic science faculty which, along with USU's geographical location, have helped attract excellent new faculty.

PRESENTATION: BRAC AND INTEGRATION

Dr. Rice's report to the Board on the integration of the military health system in the National Capital Area mandated by the Base Realignment and Closure Act included the following points:

- Objectives in initial planning meetings regarding the consolidation of the Walter Reed Army Medical Center and the National Naval Medical Center included reducing unneeded capacity, relocating medical care into excellent facilities, and providing skill-enhancement opportunities for health care personnel
- Military health care leaders in the National Capital Area agreed that the new Walter Reed National Military Medical Center was to be a tri-service medical facility rivaling other world-renown medical institutions
- Force health protection, active duty and beneficiary care, and research are primary focal points of the area's military health system
- Military health care leaders share a commitment to one integrated health care system in the National Capital Area. The Walter Reed National Military Medical Center at Bethesda, together with USU, represents the system's core.
- Customers' driving distance to a medical facility was a primary factor in defining "north" (Walter Reed National Military Medical Center) and "south" (a new hospital at Fort Belvoir and reconfiguring the Malcolm Grow Medical Center into an outpatient facility) markets
- Facilities in the area are already beginning the integration process
- USU's integration team, headed by Dr. Vernon Schinski, consists of an advisory council and eight subcommittees
- Work has begun in several areas such as administrative services, clinical services, communications, health professions education, nursing, and research
- A proposal is under consideration which would establish USU as the sponsor of all graduate medical education programs in the National Capital Area
 - This would replace the National Capital Consortium
 - All residents would be assigned to the University
 - A bureaucratic level as well as service-specific rules and regulations would be eliminated

Dr. Rice concluded his remarks by recognizing the extraordinary leadership of MG Farmer in the integration process. He also commended medical treatment facility commanders throughout the National Capital Area.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administrative Oversight

Ms. Stierle reviewed the committee's current work:

- The Board, in keeping with advice from the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, has accomplished the first yearly evaluation of the University's president and will soon forward its summary report to the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs. Suggestions for improving the process will be sought from all its participants.
- A thorough review of the honorary awards approved by the Board of Regents remains ongoing. The committee's goal is to clarify the entire process, including the time needed by Regents to adequately review nominations.

At Ms. Stierle's request, Mr. Baker summarized the question concerning voting privileges of those who attend meetings as designees of the Surgeons General. This issue came to light at the Spring Meeting, when Regents present did not constitute a quorum. Following a review with the Department's Office of General Counsel, the legal consensus concurs with the Bylaws of the Board of Regents in that Article VII E (7) provides for voting by duly appointed representatives of the Surgeons General. Mr. Baker suggested, however, that it would be appropriate to amend the Bylaws and specifically state that representatives of the Assistant Secretary for Health Affairs also be accorded voting privileges.

Mr. Alvarez asked Mr. Baker to review the appropriateness of appointed Regents giving proxies to other appointed members.

Mr. Alvarez thanked Ms. Stierle and Dr. Mohr for the time and effort they have contributed to the Administrative Oversight Committee in general and the presidential evaluation process in particular.

Annual Report to the Secretary of Defense

Dr. Falkenheimer noted three possible topics for the 2007 Annual Report and said that other suggestions from within the University are welcome. Suggestions should be sent to CAPT Mead, Executive Secretary.

REPORT FROM THE FACULTY

Dr. Agoston, Past President, presented the report from the Faculty Senate. His remarks included the following points:

- The senate has established a Faculty Appreciation Award. It was presented for the first time in June 2006, to Mr. Stephen Brown, Chief, Applied Medical Informatics, James A. Zimble Learning Resource Center
- The lack of an accurate faculty database and space allocation issues remain ongoing faculty concerns

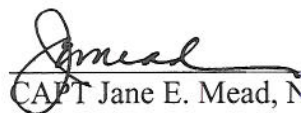
CLOSING COMMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT

VADM Carmona briefly visited the meeting; his term as Surgeon General ended July 31, 2006. Mr. Alvarez thanked him for coming and also for his support of the University and the Board of Regents throughout his tenure.

In closing comments, Mr. Alvarez thanked MG Farmer for his many years of service as well as his significant support for USU.

There being no further business, Mr. Alvarez adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

SUBMITTED:



CAPT Jane E. Mead, NC, USN
Executive Secretary, Board of Regents

APPROVED:



Everett Alvarez, Jr.
Chair, Board of Regents

Prepared by Janet S. Taylor